

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
**Migratory Bird and Wetlands Conservation Stamp and Artwork Program**  
Expenditure Plan for FY 2019-21 Biennium

A. History of Migratory Bird Stamp and Artwork Legislation

The Migratory Waterfowl and Wetland Conservation Stamp and Artwork legislation was signed into law on May 10, 1985. This legislation established a Washington "Duck Stamp" required to hunt migratory waterfowl, and an artwork program designed to generate revenue using the image on the stamp. In 1998, the legislation was amended to include all migratory game birds (waterfowl, coots, snipe, doves, band-tailed pigeons) under a permit validation. All funds derived from the sale of stamps and permits are dedicated for acquisition and development of migratory game bird habitat in the state, and for the enhancement, protection, and propagation of migratory game birds in the state. All funds derived from the sale of artwork are dedicated for contracts to nonprofit organizations or individuals for the development of migratory game bird propagation projects within the state.

B. Development of Project Proposals

When the program was initiated, WDFW personnel throughout the state assisted in developing project evaluation forms and evaluation criteria for use in assigning priorities to migratory bird habitat enhancement projects. In early 2019, a total of 32 proposals were completed and submitted through WDFW regional offices. Proposals were evaluated and ranked by the Duck Stamp Project Evaluation Team, a WDFW committee composed of 9 representatives, including: 2 District Biologists (1 western, 1 eastern), 4 Wildlife Area Managers (2 western, 2 eastern), Landscape Conservation representatives from Wildlife and Habitat Programs, and the State Waterfowl Specialist. Proposals were subsequently evaluated by the Waterfowl Advisory Group, a citizen's committee representing waterfowl hunting and conservation community throughout the state, during an annual meeting held April 13, 2019.

C. Criteria for Selecting Projects

Several factors were considered in developing guidelines for selection of proposals for funding in the 2019-21 biennium. Primary factors included relative migratory bird use for nesting, staging, and wintering; potential for increasing migratory bird use; relative cost and benefit of improvements (including cost/year/acre scores); projected annual operation and maintenance costs; amount of other funds leveraged; proximity to other projects; threat of loss (acquisitions); benefits to other species; and benefits to public

access. Additionally, for the 2019-21 biennium, the request for proposals provided 5 Areas of Emphasis to highlight original purposes of these wetland habitat funds, including: 1) Nesting Cover, Habitat Preference and Suitability, 2) Brood Rearing Habitat and Water Availability, 3) Improving Long-term Benefits of Vegetation Control and Enhanced Wetland Management Activities, 4) Multi-season Habitat Benefits, and 5) Student Involvement. The proposed program plan developed for the Legislature in 1985 was also used to guide the selection process, which described the planned allocation of revenues: habitat acquisition 48%; enhancement of wildlife areas 25%; project administration 18%; food plots on private lands 9%. General guidance in project selection also included providing emphasis on projects to increase waterfowl recruitment in eastern Washington, and wintering habitat and access in western Washington.

#### D. Approved Projects

The projects listed in Tables 1 and 2 were approved as proposed for funding in 2019-21, based on projected available stamp and print revenue. Note that approved funding levels are for the entire biennium rather than annual totals. As in each biennium, funding levels for stamp projects may increase over projections due to unforeseen costs during proposal development. Additional funding is anticipated from outside sources (e.g. Ducks Unlimited, Inc., USFWS, NRCS). Future increases in stamp / artwork revenue may allow additional funding for approved projects or addition of new projects during the biennium, and a portion of projected expenditure authority has been allocated for contingencies. Projects listed in Tables 3 and 4 were not selected for funding. Finally, the potential for available spending authority at the end of the 2017-19 biennium may allow the opportunity for approved proposals to occur prior to July 1, 2019, these projects are specified.

TABLE 1: 2019-21 MIGRATORY BIRD STAMP / ARTWORK PROJECTS - CAPITAL BUDGET PROJECTS

REG	Rank Score	PROJECT	TYPE	REQUEST	FUND LEVEL (2 YR TOTAL)	CTOTAL	LEV	MATCH	STATUS	CURRENT EXPEND. (thru March 2020)	COMMENTS
3	1719	*^Sunnyside/Snake River Wildlife Area w/Water Control	Water Control	27788	27637	27637	+		COMPLETE	\$ 27,637.00	DU Contract (1719)
		*^Winchester Regulated Access Area Complex - Phase1	Wetland Enhancement	364539	7105.21	34742	+	100000	COMPLETE	\$ 7,105.21	DU Contract (1719)
2	1719	*^Winchester Regulated Access Area Complex - Phase2	Wetland Enhancement	316690	265102	299844	+	100000	in PROG.	\$ 260,604.76	DU Contract (1719)
6	1719	*^John's River Water Control Structure	Water Control	62501	40373	340217			COMPLETE	\$ 40,373.00	DU Contract (1719)
		<b>CAPITAL COMMITTED</b>		<b>771518</b>	<b>340217</b>			<b>100000</b>			
6	1.11	Chehalis Wildlife Area Expansion - Elma Floodplain	Acquisition	180000	180000	180000			in PROG.	\$ 1,475.00	
1	1.56	^Revere Wildlife Area - South Pond Water Control	Water Control	36856		180000			in PROG.	\$ -	DU Contract
5	1.67	Shillapoo WLA Tractor Replacement	Equipment/Habitat Enhancement	40000	see 2b	180000	+	100000	COMPLETE		State Treasury/BPA
6	1.89	Chehalis WLA - Hoxit Unit Water Control Structure	Water Control	100000	100000	280000			in PROG.	\$ -	DU Contract
6	2.00	Grays Harbor County - No-Till Drill for Habitat	Equipment/Winter Forage	30000	see 2d	280000	+	tbd	COMPLETE		RCD/Local Ag
2	2.33	!!Washburn Island Irrigation Replacement - Water Control	Water Control	90000	90000	370000	+	90000	in PROG.	\$ -	Douglas PUD
1	2.00	Colville Valley Floodplain Wetland Restoration	Wetland Enhancement	230000			+	125000	PENDING		City of Colville/Ecology
		<b>TOTAL CAPITAL 2019-21 BIENNIUM</b>		<b>1478374</b>	<b>710217</b>			<b>415000</b>		<b>\$ 337,194.97</b>	

\*Currently under contract; ^Split Funding Request under OPERATING projects; !!Project moved up list by suggestion of WAG (12-2 vote)

CTOTAL=CUMULATIVE TOTAL; LEV=PROGRAM FUNDS LEVERAGED; CONTR - CONTRACT=C, WDFW=W, OWNSHP - A=ACQUISITION, O=OTHER, W=WDFW;

FOCUS - P=PRODUCTION, W=WINTERING; CBScore=COST BENEFIT SCORE=COST / YEAR / AC; AC=PROD+NEST+1/2FOOD+1/2HUNT

TABLE 2: 2019-21 MIGRATORY BIRD STAMP / ARTWORK PROJECTS - OPERATING BUDGET

REG	Rank Score	PROJECT	TYPE	REQUEST	FUND LEVEL (2 YR TOTAL)	CTOTAL	LEV	MATCH	STATUS	CURRENT EXPEND. (thru March 2020)	COMMENTS
O		Project Management	Admin	170000	106350	106350			in PROG.	\$ 56,888.00	
O	1.44	Joint Venture Wetland Prioritization Tool	JV Coordination	60000	60000	166350	+	80000	in PROG.	\$ -	UM Contract
3	1719	*^Sunnyside/Snake River Wildlife Area w/Water Control	Feasibility/Design	8900	8900	175250			in PROG.	\$ -	DU Contract
1	1719	*Channeled Scablands Waterfowl Surveys	Research/ Planning	65668	65668	240918	+	25000	in PROG.	\$ 20,227.57	DU Contract
2	1719	*^Winchester Regulated Access Area Complex - Phase2	Feasibility/Design	316690	51458	292376	+	153934	in PROG.	\$ 127.00	DU Contract
6	1719	*^John's River Moist Water Control Structure	Vegetation Mgmt	62501	22128	314504			in PROG.	\$ 455.00	DU Contract
4	1719	Skagit WLA - Milltown Enhancement	Vegetation Mgmt	38000	38000	352504			in PROG.	\$ 7,252.00	
6	1719	Short Farm	Access Agreement	50000	10000	362504			in PROG.	\$ 6,000.00	Private Landowner
		<b>OPERATING COMMITTED</b>		<b>771759</b>	<b>362504</b>	<b>362504</b>		<b>258934</b>			
5	1.22	Shillapoo WA Moist Soil Management	Vegetation Mgmt	80000	80000	80000			in PROG.	\$ 18,263.00	
3	1.44	Sunnyside WLA - Wetland Cell Restoration	Feasibility/Design	209000	77000	157000			in PROG.	\$ -	
6	1.44	Chehalis WA Vegetation Control	Vegetation Mgmt	41400	41400	198400			in PROG.	\$ 6,115.00	
1	1.56	Revere Wildlife Area - South Pond Water Control	Feasibility/Design	36856	36856	235256			in PROG.	\$ -	DU Contract
4	1.56	WHAP-R4 Private Lands Access Farming	Winter Forage	72488	72488	307744			FY1 - complete	\$ 26,860.00	Local Ag
4	1.67	Skagit WA - Samish Unit Farming	Winter Forage	114000	114000	421744			in PROG.	\$ -	Local Ag
6	1.78	Band-tailed Pigeon Mineral Sites and Habitat Use	Research/Habitat Plan	90000	60000	481744	+	15000	in PROG.	\$ 941.00	
4	1.89	Whatcom WA, Lake Terrell Farming	Winter Forage	10000	10000	491744			in PROG.	\$ 559.00	
O	1.89	Evaluating Nesting and Brood Habitats	Research/Habitat Plan	146000	20000	511744	+	5000	PENDING	\$ -	CoopRUnit
2	2.00	Columbia Basin Wetland Enhancements: Fire&Olives	Vegetation Mgmt	137000	40000	551744		41648	in PROG.	\$ 1,090.00	
2	<b>2.44</b>	!!Wells Wildlife Area, Washburn Island Unit	Enhancement	27000	13500	565244			in PROG.	\$ 1,592.00	1yr funding
6	2.11	Chinook Unit Moist Soil Management	Moist Soil Management	48384	24192	589436			in PROG.	\$ 5,126.00	1yr funding
6	2.11	Johns River Unit Moist Soil Management	Veg Mgmt	20160	20160	609596			in PROG.	\$ 4,303.00	1yr funding
		<b>OPERATING FUNDING REQUESTS</b>		<b>1032288</b>	<b>609596</b>	<b>609596</b>		<b>61648</b>		<b>\$ 155,798.57</b>	
		<b>TOTAL OPERATING 2019-21 BIENNIUM</b>		<b>1804047</b>	<b>972100</b>			<b>320582</b>			

\*Currently under contract; ^Split Funding Request under CAPITAL projects; !!Project moved up list by suggestion of WAG (11-2 vote), but funded at 1-year level.

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## **2019-21 MIGRATORY BIRD STAMP/ARTWORK PROJECTS PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS**

1. **2019-21 Capital Budget Projects (Ongoing)**
  - a. Sunnyside-Snake River Wildlife Area Water Control Structure (Yakima Co.; see 3d below). Finalize replacement of Giffin Lake water control structure.
  - b. Winchester Regulated Access Area Complex –(Grant Co.; see 3e below). Finalizing wetland enhancements to improve waterfowl habitats.
  - c. John’s River Water Control Structure Feasibility and Design (Grays Harbor Co.; see 3f below).
  
2. **2019-21 Capital Budget Projects (New)**
  - a. Chehalis Wildlife Area Expansion – Elma Floodplain (Grays Harbor Co.). Acquisition of open water and floodplain wetland types in the vicinity of the Chehalis Wildlife Area to provide winter waterfowl habitats and public access.
  - b. Shillapoo Wildlife Area Cost-Share Tractor Replacement (Clark Co.; **funded via DS17-19 Revenue**). Provides partial funds for replacement of \$140K tractor that is responsible for approximately 1,000 acres of mowing, planting, spraying in enhancing waterfowl habitats.
  - c. Chehalis Wildlife Area - Hoxit Unit Water Control Structure Feasibility and Study Design (Grays Harbor Co.). Assess replacement of failing water control structures impeding improved wetland management on the site.
  - d. Grays Harbor No-Till Drill for Private Land Habitat and Access (Grays Harbor Co.; **funded via DS17-19 Revenue**). Provide cover crop food plot plantings and hunter access on 500 acres throughout Chehalis Valley.
  - e. Wells Wildlife Area - Washburn Island Irrigation Cost-Share Replacement (Douglas Co.). Provides matching funds to replace pivot infrastructure that irrigates 120 acres of winter forage grain crops for waterfowl along the Columbia River.
  - f. Colville Valley Foodplain Wetland Restoration and Community Outreach (Stevens Co. - **PENDING FUNDING**). Partnership wetland restoration to create a wetland demonstration site to be used as an education and outreach tool for Colville River floodplain restorations that would enhance waterfowl habitats throughout this valley.
  
3. **2019-21 Operating Budget Projects (Ongoing)**
  - a. Project Management (Olympia)  
Staff time costs to coordinate and implement projects.
  - b. Joint Venture Coordination (Olympia)  
Wetland Prioritization Tool contract through University of Montana Cooperative Research Unit to assist in future planning and conservation efforts statewide.
  - c. Short Farm (Olympic Peninsula, Kitsap Co.)  
Provide winter waterfowl wetland habitats and hunter access to 150 wetland acres.
  - d. Sunnyside Unit – Snake River Wildlife Area Water Control Structure (Yakima Co.).  
Finalize water delivery project to improve 95 acres Griffin Lake supply to more than 30 acres of wetlands downstream.

- e. Winchester Regulated Access Area Complex – Feasibility and Design (Grant Co.).  
Finalize eastern portion of project to improve water delivery and wetland function of 375 acres in the Winchester Complex. Has leveraged and continues to pursue NAWCA funds as cost share.
- f. John’s River Water Control Structure Feasibility and Design (Grays Harbor Co.).  
Enhance wetland management and forage on 95 acres through water control structure replacement in the internal unit.
- g. Channeled Scablands Waterfowl Surveys (Spokane, Lincoln, Adams, Whitman, Grant Co.)  
Final phase to collect and summarize critical data gaps regarding spring migration use of waterfowl within the Channeled Scablands wetlands to estimate total abundance, distribution, species composition, timing of migration, and habitat use. Cost share.
- h. Skagit Wildlife Area, Milltown Enhancement (Skagit WA, Skagit Co.)  
Provide vegetation control and manage 50 acres for *Carex lyngbyei* intertidal emergent wetland providing improved forage habitat for migratory waterfowl.

**4. 2019-21 Operating Budget Projects (New)**

- a. Shillapoo Moist Soil Management (Clark Co.)  
Partial funding for wetland / pasture management and access on 650 ac. Cost share.
- b. Sunnyside-Snake River Wildlife Area – Wetland Enhancement (Yakima Co.)  
Feasibility, study design, and implementation of 70 acre wetland enhancement.
- c. Chehalis WA Vegetation Control (Grays Harbor Co.)  
Continuation of 180 ac. vegetation control at the Chehalis Unit.
- d. Revere Wildlife Area South Pond Wetland Enhancement (Whitman Co.) Vegetation and sedimentation control, inspect and repair water control structure to enhance 45 acres of waterfowl brood rearing wetland habitat in eastern Washington.
- e. Region 4 – Private Land Waterfowl Forage Enhancements (Skagit, Snohomish and Whatcom Co.) Maintain food plot plantings on 120 ac. of private lands access agreements in Skagit, Snohomish and Whatcom Counties. These winter forage sites compliments Private Land Access agreements to create the Waterfowl Habitat and Access Program (WHAP sites), highlighting the importance of agricultural lands providing winter forage for waterfowl.
- f. Skagit Wildlife Area – Samish Unit Farming and Moist soil test (Skagit Co.) Continue farming 220 ac with barley, cereal grains, corn, fava beans and grasses on the Samish unit. Additionally, test up to 25 acres for moist soil management potential.
- g. Whatcom Wildlife Area – Lake Terrell Unit Winter Forage Farming (Whatcom Co.)  
Provide funds for an additional 15 ac planting of winter forage on the Lake Terrell Unit.
- h. Evaluating Nesting and Brood Rearing Habitats in Washington (Statewide)
- i. Columbia Basin Wetland Enhancements: Prescribed Fire and Russian Olive Removal
- j. Wells Wildlife Area – Washburn Island Farming (Douglas Co.)
- k. Chinook / Willapa Moist Soil Management (Johns River WA, Pacific Co.)  
Vegetation management on 212 ac to improve winter use on the Chinook and Willapa Wetlands units.

1. Johns River Unit Moist Soil Management (Johns River WA, Grays Harbor Co.)

5. **2019-21 Operating Budget Projects (New - Non-Waterfowl Revenue)**

a. Band-tailed Pigeon Mineral Sites and Habitat Use (Clallam, Grays Harbor, Jefferson Cos.)

Marking band-tailed pigeons to document sites in the proximity of the Olympic Peninsula and Chehalis Valley where presence of pigeons is known, but mineral sites and habitat use patterns are not well documented or understood to better inform forest management practices in the region.

TABLE 3: 2019-21 MIGRATORY BIRD STAMP / PRINT PROJECT PROPOSALS - **CAPITAL BUDGET NOT FUNDED**

REG	PROJECT	TYPE	REQUEST	COMMENTS
5	Shillapoo WLA - Vancouver Lake Unit Water Control	Water Control	107723	Below available funding line
4	Rainbow Ponds Wetland Development	Water Control	100000	High cost/Low habitat benefit
3	Union Gap Wetland Habitat Acquisition	Acquisition	220000	Advisory Group Recommendation

TABLE 4: 2019-21 MIGRATORY BIRD STAMP / PRINT PROJECT PROPOSALS - **OPERATING BUDGET NOT FUNDED**

REG	PROJECT	TYPE	REQUEST	COMMENTS
2	Columbia Basin Cropland Hunting Access Initiative (CHA)	Public Access	90000	Below available funding line
2	Columbia Basin LiDAR and Wetland Project Scoping 2019	Planning	55603	Below available funding line
6	Satsop Pond Restoration and Habitat Enhancement	Veg Mgmt	36215	Below available funding line
4	Ebey Island Forage Enhancement	Winter Forage	28050	Below available funding line
2	Bridgeport Bar Vegetation Removal	Veg Mgmt	17000	Below available funding line
4	Region 4 - Private Land Focused Farm Enhancement	Winter Forage	60000	Below available funding line
6	Chehalis Valley Green Forage Seeding - Public Access	Public Access	24000	Below available funding line